

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of transitioning between two high resolution images in a slideshow, said method comprising:

replacing a first image with a lower resolution copy of said first image; and  
fading out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal a second image.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling a graphic overlay and displaying said first image prior to replacing said first image.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising pointing a video overlay at said first image to display said first image prior to said replacing of said first image.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing said first image in a first video buffer.

5. The method of claim 3, further comprising making said lower resolution copy of said first image and storing said lower resolution copy of said first image in a graphic buffer.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:  
pointing a graphic overlay at said lower resolution copy of said first image; and  
enabling said graphic overlay.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising completing covering a display of said first image with said graphic overlay of said lower resolution copy of said first image.

8. The method of claim 6, further comprising pointing said video overlay at said second image before fading out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal said second image.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising storing said second image in a second video buffer.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein said first image is a still image.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein said first image is a frame of a video clip.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein said second image is a still image.
13. The method of claim 1, wherein said second image is a frame of a video clip.
14. The method of claim 1, further comprising centering and resizing said first and second images to fit respective buffers prior to said replacing said first image.
15. A system for transitioning between two high resolution images in a slideshow, said system comprising a video chip comprising:
  - a first video buffer for containing a first image;
  - a second video buffer for containing a second image; and
  - a graphic buffer for containing a lower resolution copy of said first image;wherein said chip is configured to replace said first image with said lower resolution copy of said first image and fade out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal said second image.
16. The system of claim 15, further comprising a video overlay for initially displaying said first image prior to said replacing of said first image.
17. The system of claim 15, wherein said chip is further configured to make said lower resolution copy of said first image and store said lower resolution copy of said first image in a graphic buffer.

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18. The system of claim 16, further comprising a graphic overlay for displaying said lower resolution copy of said first image over said first image.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein said chip is further configured to point said video overlay at said second image before fading out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal said second image.

20. The system of claim 15, wherein said first image is a still image.

21. The system of claim 15, wherein said first image is a frame of a video clip.

22. The system of claim 15, wherein said second image is a still image.

23. The system of claim 15, wherein said second image is a frame of a video clip.

24. A media viewer application stored on a medium for storing processor-readable instructions, said application comprising a slideshow function, wherein said slideshow function, when invoked, automatically displays a sequence of images stored on a selected storage medium to produce a slideshow.

wherein said slideshow function is configured to replace a first image with a lower resolution copy of said first image and then fade out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal a second image.

25. The application of claim 24, wherein said slideshow function is configured to operate a video overlay for initially displaying said first image prior to said replacing of said first image.

26. The application of claim 24, wherein said slideshow function is configured to make said lower resolution copy of said first image and store said lower resolution copy of said first image in a graphic buffer.

27. The application of claim 24, wherein said slideshow function is configured to operate a graphic overlay for displaying said lower resolution copy of said first image over said first image.

28. The application of claim 27, wherein said slideshow function is configured to point a video overlay at said second image before fading out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal said second image.

29. The application of claim 24, wherein said first image is a still image.

30. The application of claim 24, wherein said first image is a frame of a video clip.

31. The application of claim 24, wherein said second image is a still image.

32. The application of claim 24, wherein said second image is a frame of a video clip.

33. A system for displaying images stored on a storage medium, said system comprising:

a video monitor;

a device for reading a data storage medium and outputting a signal to said video monitor; and

a media viewer application operational with said device for reading said data storage medium, wherein said media viewer application further comprises a slideshow function that, when invoked, automatically displays images stored on said data storage medium to produce a slideshow;

wherein said slideshow function is configured to replace a first image with a lower resolution copy of said first image and then fade out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal a second image.

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34. The system of claim 33, wherein said device for reading said data storage medium comprises a computer.

35. The system of claim 33, wherein said device for reading said data storage medium comprises a personal video recorder.

36. The system of claim 33, wherein said device for reading said data storage medium comprises a set-top box.

37. The system of claim 33, wherein said device for reading said data storage medium is incorporated into said video monitor.

38. The system of claim 33, wherein said device for reading a data storage medium is a compact disk drive.

39. The system of claim 33, wherein said device for reading a data storage medium is a memory card port.

40. The system of claim 33, wherein said slideshow function is configured to operate a video overlay for initially displaying said first image prior to said replacing of said first image.

41. The system of claim 33, wherein said slideshow function is configured to make said lower resolution copy of said first image and store said lower resolution copy of said first image in a graphic buffer.

42. The system of claim 33, wherein said slideshow function is configured to operate a graphic overlay for displaying said lower resolution copy of said first image over said first image.

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43. The system of claim 42, wherein said slideshow function is configured to point a video overlay at said second image before fading out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal said second image.

44. A system for displaying images stored on a storage medium, said system comprising:

means for reading a data storage medium and outputting a signal to a means for displaying images; and

means for replacing a first image with a lower resolution copy of said first image and then fading out said lower resolution copy of said first image to reveal a second image.

45. The system of claim 44, wherein said means for reading said data storage medium comprise a computer.

46. The system of claim 44, wherein said means for reading said data storage medium comprises a personal video recorder.

47. The system of claim 44, wherein said means for reading said data storage medium comprises a set-top box.

48. The system of claim 44, wherein said means for reading said data storage medium is incorporated into said video monitor.

49. The system of claim 44, wherein said means for replacing comprise a media viewer application configured to run on said means for reading a data storage medium.